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THE
CONDUCT
OF
FRANCE
Since the
PEACE
AT
NIMEGUEN

*Written lately in French by a Person of
Quality, made English. par G. de Courtier*

L O N D O N ,

Printed by H. Hills Jun. for William Cademan,
at the Sign of the Popes-head, in the
New-Exchange in the Strand. 1684.

881.

THE
CONDUCT

OF

FRANCE

Since the

PEACE

AT

NIMEGUEN

As it is now lately in French by a new
Edition, with English.

LONDON,

Printed by H. KILBY, for J. WILKINS, at the Sign of the Lion, in the New-Exchange in the Strand.

THE
PREFACE
TO THE
Reader.

I Can't well tell of all
Mankind, how I come
to be giving to the Public
what I now present them with;
was neither by my Birth, nor
Profession, cut out for an Au-
thor, and without vanity

The Preface.

could much better draw up a Regiment, than write a Book: Have made one however before I was aware, heard by some Friends of mine to discourse pertinently enough, or as they thought I did, of the present conjuncture of Affairs, engag'd me insensibly to couch it them in a Memoire to the End, as I suppose, they not all speaking so good French, as I perhaps might do, not having been the time I was in the Country, should by the means be better understood

The Preface.

derstood by that Nation, as they happen'd to have converse together. But as 'tis observable plurality of words steals from a Mans Mouth when Tongue is once upon the Wheel, fluency of Ink too is generally occasion'd, when once People take their Pen in hand: The remembrance of one thing brings another into Mind, and when one thinks to be drawing to conclusion, wonders to see we again are to begin afresh.

The Preface.

A Book then 'tis I have writ, as I told you, when I thought nothing less, and more, have let the Book appear in Print, vast Field I had for subject, and could still have had something yet to say, would I say all I knew: But I conceiv'd this sufficiently enough to let the designs of a Crown be understood, whose Ambition reaches at more then it can grasp: Now as I make no manner of Question, Ocean of Faults will be found in this small
A Tract,

The Preface.

*Tract, I beg the Reader will
forgive, considering as I have
all my days profess't Arms,
may be better at my Sword
than Pen.*

THE

The Preface.

First, I beg the Reader will
forgive, considering as I have
all my days past & Arms,
may be better at my sword
than Pen.

THE

THE
CONDUCT
OF
FRANCE

Since the Peace of

NIMEGUEN.

THere is not anytho but little verſt
in Publick affairs ignorant,
what 'twas ſome years ſince
induced *France* to make a Peace; She
then ſaw the better Part of *Germany*
United againſt Her, and *Spain* with
Holland agreed to the ſame purpoſe,
And though till then their Arms had all
along met with favourable Succeſs, be-
B ing

ing more then they could promise the continuance of, was glad to prevent with caution those Possible misfortunes, which might have happened in case once their Good Fortune should begin to leave them: But what most powerfully obliged to the taking of those measures, was, finding *her* self loudly threatne'd from *England*, whose Weighty Arms in Conjunction with so many others, were capable of Sinking Her to as low a Pitch, as She then seem'd Flourishing in a topping Condition.

It had been Remonstrated by more then one hand to the Kingdom of *England*, that of all Things they should lay hold of the Fair Occasion to invade *France*, where they had formerly been the Masters of many Fair and Rich Provinces; that whilst *France* had her Forces imploy'd without, and her hands full abroad, those of *England* would meet with no resistance, means not only to an accession of Dominion, but also of Glory.

These

These Considerations, or the Jealousies rather that people had of the Growing Greatness of the *French*, sway'd with them to resolve to do something more, then the bent of some Private Interests had a mind they should: There being then a good understanding between the Court of *France*, and that of *England*, a Rupture of this Kind went much against the hair: The French no sooner sensible how far those reasons I now touch't upon were prevailing, presently satisfied *England* they not only were ready to lay down their arms, but even to submit to Terms. Store of good Guineys cleverly bestowed in the right place, and amongst those most violent for a War with *France*, rebated immediately the passion, and rendred their propositions for a Peace the most reasonable imaginable; upon the point of declaring, *England* was now become a Solicitous Mediator of an accommodation. Proposals were accordingly made on either side, and whilst each insisted upon the matter of their right, which

was long in debate without Redressing of the mischief in matter of Fact, *France*, whose Aim it was to take *Holland* off from her other Allies, handsomely in the mean while insinuated by her Agents thither express sent amongst the Common Sort of People, How their State was not to be Retriev'd in Nature, but by the means of a Peace, that their only Shoulders had hitherto born the burthen of the War, and must expect to bear on so long as War continued: That trade never flourish'd in a time of desolation and misery, and since in Trading their chiefest welfare, as that of their State it self did absolutely consist in, the regaining of their Peace again, which had made that State once so flourishing, ought now to be the scope of their utmost endeavours.

The strength of these reasons carry'd a poison not to every Eye perceivable, for though a truth it was the United Provinces did really stand in need of a Peace, they should however have had regard to the proper Interest of their
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 respective

respective Allys, who for their only preservation had engaged in the War. But as reflections of that kind went not with the Grain of the People, who long'd for nothing so much as the return of their dear Trade, they made no impression. They were besides extremely harraßt now, and weary of War, for as the *French* had right enough observed to them, that State of theirs was forc'd to pay a good part of the Emperor's, *Brandenburg's*, and other of their Allys Forces, which occasioned of necessity an Augmentation of Subsidies, & Subsidies so extraordinary heavy that the whole thing it was rais'd out of, did not answer: And indeed a Man of Four hundred Pound a Year Rent was obliged to pay the *State* Five hundred, and to see himself undone, and mouldred to nothing, without the possibility of a remedy: Every Body then sensible of their particular inconveniencies, thought of nothing but present redress, without the least concerning for what might be hereafter: Of the whole

Body of that Common-wealth, none but his Highness the Prince of *Orange* truly penetrated the consequences of the Peace, which in that present face of things must of necessity to all the *Allys* in general prove very disadvantageous; since without lending hand to deceive our selves, we could not flatter with the hopes of Restitution from *France*, high, and haughty, in the glories of her Conquests; and common sense might tell us, we first ought to have obliged it to one by force of Arms, before so much as the proposal of any thing like it could be proper. Now to leave *France* in the actual possession of so many important places, bordering upon *Germany* and *Flanders* so close, and so many Baits to its usual Ambition, was properly by leaving him one foot in the Country, to give him the opportunity of placing the other, as they saw occasion; 'twas a thing not unnotic'd the great difficulty occur'd in the uniting of the *German* Princes, which neither more nor less, but just like an Engia
of

of many Springs, was brought into motion, but with all the pains and trouble in the World: It was rational then Enough to fear, if once suffered to knock off, they were not when one would have them to be got together again; the Prince of Orange had represented all this at large in the Assembly of the States General, where some he never mist of, opposing his Opinion, it was flatly told him there, the Charge of the War was not a thing supportable; the excess of which had quite already drain'd their Bank, and reduced the People to the last degrees of Indigence; that a respite of necessity must be given, or resolve in a very little to see the utter ruine of the Nation: That Prince would have reply'd the respite not at all like to last, and *France* seeking but to sever them from their Allies, having once wrought their Ends, would again be playing over her Old Branks within a Year or two: But Burginaster Ofsee, of *Amsterdam*, stop'd his Mouth, in telling the Provinces were

indeed consenting with all their Hearts to the carrying on the War, if his Highness could but hit the way of doing it without Mony, that the Province of *Holland* would give not a Stiver more towards it, or at least the City of *Amsterdam* would not, as whose Representative he was, commission'd to speak. Now you must know all the Subsidies whatever, rais'd upon the Seven Provinces, that of *Holland* furnishes almost the half, and of that half more then the two Fifts are paid by the City of *Amsterdam*. That in the Quota of Subsidies if the Province of *Holland* be reckon'd to pay Fifteen Millions, of that Fifteen, Seven is near pay'd by that City. After *Oftee's* having thus declar'd himself there was no likelihood of thinking to continue the War any longer, chiefly for that the rest of the Provinces conform'd for the most part in Opinion much with that of *Holland*, was easily observable, and that though they yet had not explain'd themselves so fully upon the

the point as *Holland* had, their great inclination to Peace was like their's apparently obvious. As the Emperor thoroughly understood at bottom, the *French* intentions drove of a long time at Universal Monarchy, at hearing what had past in *Holland* was much concern'd at the News: Yet to divert if possible those Provinces from the resolutions they had taken, had it told them, he required no more of them the Subsidies they us'd to pay him, offering to return them again upon the like occasion the same assistance: The *Hollanders* thank't the Emperor for his good will, but could not be induced for that to continue the War, adding that seeing his Imperial Majesty as well as the rest of the Allys produced every day some fresh Obstacles or other to the Peace then in Treaty at *Nimeguen*, warn'd him, that if he did not think good to conclude the Peace, and that very suddenly, they should be oblig'd to do it without him; what made the *Dutch* so pressing was, that as *France* laid

laid the conditions of the Treaty very
 disadvantageous to the rest of the Allies,
 as advantageous and beneficial were the
 Terms she made for *Holland*, for *Ma-
 stricht* they offer'd to restore, the only
 remaining place of all their Conquests,
 upon that State since the first of the
 War, so that though once reduced within
 an Inch of their Destruction entire, they
 were now in prospect of a re-establish-
 ment by Vertue of the Peace to the
 same it ever had in times of its great-
 est Prosperity : Something too there
 was over and above that caress't their
 Courage in the proposed Treaty, as
 they saw the King of *France* made it his
 business to distinguish them from the
 other Allies, they thence imagin'd they
 should retrieve their lost reputation
 amongst other Nations, who formerly
 held their Forces in such good Opinion,
 and should yet think very well of them,
 seeing they were able to make their
 party good, and to defend themselves
 against a prevailing Power so very for-
 midable : To say the Truth 'tis won-
 derfully

derfully strange, and worthy without doubt of the admiration of Posterity for ever, that a little Nook of Land, as one may say, and Handful of People, has not been only able to withstand such mighty Armies, but likewise in condition to afford succour to her Neighbours. 'Twill be subject of surprize enough to them who shall succeed us, to read in History, that *Hollanders*, *Spaniards* irreconcilable Enemies, should be the People who have sav'd the Provinces to the King of *Spain*, nor the *Spaniards* heretofore so inveterate against the *Hollanders*, to find no where a more firm support, nor a more ready assistance, then that they receiv'd at hands of their most Ancient Enemies: That by a fetch of Fortune so very strange, the *Spaniards* must have been ruin'd had those of *Holland* never revolted from the *Spanish* subjection, & should there come to find their safety, where they ever reckon'd on as their certain Destruction: One may well enough say the *Hollanders* have twice scap't

a scowring, by their freeing of themselves from the Tyranny of the *Spaniards*, for had they still continued under that Dominion, the whole Seventeen Provinces had equally been lost. And indeed there needs no stress of Politicks to discover the safety, and well being, of the United Provinces, is meerly to be own'd to the prudent conduct of those who were at Helm, as a peculiar reward in store from Heaven, for what their Fore-Fathers had endured for their Religion's sake :

But to resume my Discourse, the *Hollanders* suffering themselves to be thus over-reach't by all those glossy appearances, signed cheerfully to the Peace apart, seeing their Allys remain'd obstinate in pursuing of the War, contrary to their Opinion ; I shall neither say in doing so they did well or ill, one may judge enough of it by what since has happen'd : The Emperor, however and *Spaniard*, finding their strongest recourse had thus abandon'd them, accepted of the Peace on their

their side too, and in like manner abandon'd the Duke of *Brandenburg*, who could not be brought to admit of Conditions offer'd him so very prejudicial. *France* then direct'd her Arms that way, and as that Elector was not of himself to resist alone, did what seem'd good in her Eyes in Treaty with that Prince, with this comfort at the least, what he was forc't to by *France*, was with his Sword in his Hand, and that his last action did not derogate from a Thousand others, wherein he had during the War so worthily behav'd himself: The Peace being then so happily finish'd to the content of *France*, as it rather had suspended then relinquisht its design of Universal Monarchy, began now to manage those Princes she saw divided, where there was ground to hope she might do it to effect, The Duke of *Brandenburg* could not be well more discontented with the Emperor, then he then was, oblig'd to restore back all he had made Conquest of, without the least shew of the Imperial assistance,

France

France therefore proposes an Alliance with him, with high Promises of a more Honorable Faith than he had yet found with any of the other ; at the same time the *French* Money was not wanting in its Benevolencies to that Court for the acquiring of some confiding Person proper for the backing their design, and soothed was that Elector with the assurance of a prop from such a Crown as shak't besides those of all its Neighbours, great things were offer'd him and to say in a word his resolutions in the Matter stagger'd by Thousand of advantageous tempting proffers. He did object though against the project of that Alliance his Disputes with *Swede* at that time siding with the Interest of *France*, & as those Disputes have often produc't but ill effects, 'tis not forreign to our purpose for the Readers better instruction, to discourse it in a word or two.

A certain Marquis of *Brandenburg*, made in former time some agreement with the Duke of *Pomerania* by which they settled their
Do

Dominions respectively upon one another, and to their Children after them of both Parties in case any who succeeded of either should happen to decease without Issue of his Body : The Entail taking place, and the Duke of *Pomerania* dying without Issue some Two hundred years ago, or thereabouts, the Marquis of *Brandenburg* by Virtue of the said Settlement succeeded to the Dutchy of *Pomerania* remaining the peaceable Possessor thereof till the Great *Gustavus* took it from him by force of Arms: *Gustavus* or his Successors were confirmed in their possession of that Country by the Treaty of *Munster*, but as the Marquis thereunto consented but with regret and *perforce*, a secret certain inckling of having it again has remain'd, which so often as the occasion presents him 'tis not to be doubted but he makes it his endeavor. When *France* then understood what 'twas stuck with the Duke of *Brandenburg*, and hinder'd his engaging in her Interests in favour of him she resolv'd to
make

make a Sacrifice of *Swede*, but previous to it, made first sure of the King of *Denmark* for that Crown, then in conjunction with *Brandenburg*, found her self by the projection of that Confederacy of Strength enough in the North, not to fear what the rest of its Princes might be undertaking in opposition to the *French* designs: The King of *Denmark* who had a sample himself like others of the Puissant force of *France* in the last War, rejected not the Alliance ; but as *Brandenburg* had before opposed the interferences too of his Interest with that of *Swede* , let *France* understand it only declin'd Proposals upon that account : *France* was otherwise not over satisfied with *Swede*, for its hovering as one may call it so long about the Matter before it could finally declare it self in the late War, that after its declaring, had acted nothing answerable to that high Reputation the great *Gustavus* had gain'd his Nation by the great things he had done, that far from managing as formerly that
 Peo-

People seem'd to have no great regard of upon several occasions.

The first token she gave of this was in the pretensions she made appear relating to Homage claim'd for the Dutchy of *Deux-ponts* of which she was got seized in the War time, even in the life of its late Duke, upon pretext of keeping it for the King of *Swedes* Use, who was then the presumptive Heir, but in effect to keep it for themselves, and to make their own uses of it, for the Promotion of their Designs: And since it here falls out to treat of the Fealty and Homage that Crown lays claim to from so many Sovereign Heads, 'twill not be improper to relate upon what bottom that *Chimera* is grounded, & which at this very time is the coercive cause why the quiet of all *Europe* is so unhappily disturbed.

At *Metz* there is a Sovereign sort of Court of Judicature, and a Solicitor General belonging to it, who having had commands from the King of *France* to give in an exact Memoir of all that ever

C

was

was within the jurisdiction, limits, and precinct of that Parliament, and to remit up the same to Court, he presently fills his Paper with several Villages which never had been belonging, but withal with their remarks upon them, how they had been formerly separatd, & how they had acknowledged the jurisdiction of other Neighbouring Princes who had been very well satisfied to Usurp that Power. The Instrument was drawn with Argument enough, and though it might want a foundation, did not want for colour and pretext; the State Ministers relishing the Drafft, Mr. Solicitor General is forthwith sent for to Court, to help clear some few Scruples, which yet remain'd upon their Mind, the Solicitor come not only maintain'd what he had before sent up, but pleasing of himself with the officious part of useful Man depose he had found some old Records by which it was to be made out that the Dutchy of *Deux-ponts* had ever held of the Bishoprick, and that many more considerable Lands

Lands by the connivance, and contrivance of the several Bishops with their own private Relations had been alienated and dismember'd, for that those Bishops being but Tenants for life, were well enough content in Estates of easie acquisition to accommodate their respective Families with the conveniences of Church-Lands. The *French* Ministers favour'd well the Opinion of Mr. Solicitor, and order'd him diligently to inspect all publick Registers, for what might there be found of New, and thereof to forthwith make an Abstract with Care, to be afterwards made use of in time & place. But to avoid a partiality which all should do, who undertake a publick Information; something there was of what Mr. Solicitor did alledge for many of the Good Bishops to oblige their Kindred, had truly let them have some Lands within their particular Donation, but in exchange had received other Lands back again in lieu; so that those Lands in Justice ought to be restored again which had

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doubting what he brought could be ill received: Now the Contents of those *Memoirs* are the pretensions which we have since seen break out, and at this day make such a rattle all *Europe* over.

The Marquis of *Louvois* State-Secretary at Wars, who has a very great Interest in that Kingdom, whom Mr. Solicitor presented his *Memoirs* to, could not at sight of them forbear laughing, for tho' 'twas his Business more than any Bodies to disturb the Peace which turned not to that account time of War might do, perceiving little in them that would hold Water, was not so willing to expose his Master upon a light occasion, who when he had mind to be making of a War, wanted not variety of specious pretexts: He would needs know tho' of the Solicitor whence he had sight all those Discoveries; Mr. Solicitor General seeing him so hard of belief draws out of his Pocket another Schedule which contain'd the Dates of all the true and false deeds from out of which he had collected the Instrument he be-

fore had given in; as Mr. Solicitor proposed to himself the making of a great fortune from the success of that Affair he so closely ply'd Mr. *De Louvois* with the Scheme of so many useful things that at last prevail'd with that Minister to promise, when at better leisure, the full perusal of his Memoir, and thereon to return his Answer.

The Answer to Mr. Solicitor prov'd more in his Favour then off hand the first Reception had given him reason to expect: Mr. *De Louvois* directs him to pursue his undertaking, and after the Institution of a judicial Court for the Examining of such pretensions which the King of *France* might have to several Territories and Principalities; Mr. Solicitor for his pains was nominated of that Court Judge in chief, which is no more than setting the concern'd party in the Cause upon the Bench.

I know not if I have expatiated a little too far upon the subject, but I thought it an incumbent upon me to report here the Original causes of the
Mi-

Miseries which afflict us, and ready now to involve so many States in trouble and confusion.

We revert then to where we left, which as I take it was, the King of *France* not caring greatly for his *Swedish* Alliance, Summons that Crown to do him Fealty and Homage for the Dukedome of *Deux-ponts*: The King of *Swede* being a young Prince, brave, and inferior to none in Resolution and courage, thought the Chimerical pretention very strange, but not willing to fall out with *France* upon a frivolous Matter, his Ambassador had Instructions to shew that King the injustice done him. That the Dukedom of *Deux-ponts* had ever been a Sovereign State, and that they who had it acknowledg'd Fealty and Homage for it to no Man living, except they meant for a Fealty and Homage, the usual investures they were obliged to take at the hands of the Emperor.

These Reasons the Court of *France* approv'd not of, proceeding on still in her

unjust demands of a Homage, and after a canvas past of *pro* and *con* between the Ambassadors and Ministers, the new Court of Justice pronounces roundly decree of Re-union, and that Dutchy to be annex't to the Crown of *France*, unless within such a set time the King of *Swede* acknowledged for the same his Fealty and Homage: Now that the World might see it was not from any covet of our Neighbours goods that Decree of *Metz* aris'd, the King freely offer'd the Investure of that Dukedom to the Duke *Adolphus* Uncle to the King of *Swede* in case the King his Nephew conform'd not to the Tenure of the Decree which to be sure he was not like to do.

Whilst Duke *Adolphus* halted between the hopes of getting that Dukedom and fear of disoblighing the King his Nephew the King of *France* sends in the interim the Prince *Palatine* of *Birkenfield*, a Prince of the *Palatine* Family, to keep that Dutchy in the Name of Duke *Alfonfus* his near Kinsman, promising

mising in case that Duke accepted of it
 not upon the conditions proposed him,
 he himself should be then immediately
 invested ; the Prince of *Birkenfield* ha-
 ving return'd his thanks for the Kings
 good will towards him , and having
 done him Fealty and Homage for the
 the Dukedom in name of Duke *Alphon-*
sus, he repai'd accordingly to the Ex-
 ecution of his Commission, I shall be si-
 lent here in reflecting upon the Extra-
 vaganeys of this way of proceeding. A
 Reader does not so much care to have
 the point decided to his hand, 'tis limi-
 ting his Fancy, and by reasoning first
 upon the subject, but giving Laws to
 his Faith in what he should believe :
 And indeed 'tis as much as is requisite
 for the Relator to tell of things as they
 nakedly are , and for the Reader to
 judge as he thinks good : But to close
 the small digression not unseasonable to
 the profession of Writers, the King of
Swede had no sooner heard what had
 been transacted in *France*, but upon it
 immediately deserted the Alliance he
 had

had embrac't during the late Wars at the hazard of his whole Country, and peril of his Life, having expos'd himself the first Man in Person, in Three or Four several Battels for the sake and interest of that Crown, expecting another kind of usage for his pains from *France* then that he met with: *Denmark* and *Brandenburg* no sooner well assur'd what side the King of *Swede* would take, but both strike up with *France*, which had engaged to furnish the King of *Denmark* both with Ships and Men for the recovery not only of some Provinces which the Father of this King of *Swede* had taken from the *Dane*, but likewise for that of *Lubeck*, upon which City by vertue of some imaginary Titles *Denmark* of long hand had great Designs: *Brandenburg* did promise to himself too a beneficial Alliance; insomuch as these Three Potentates united but to the breeding a disturbance in the Northern Peace: *France* having thus made sure of these two leaning Staffs, by Vertue of the like Decrees

crees I now mention'd, proceeds in the same way against other Sovereign Princes, requiring of them the submission of Fealty and Homage: Many who saw themselves not in condition to resist acquiesc'd in all they would demand, others shew'd themselves more stubborn, but smarted for their standing out by the Quartering, and Garisoning their Country, forc't by fowl means, to do what by fair they had refused. But here I must give account what happen'd to the *Rinegrave*, his Authority in the Country being great, and his example of influence to others, *France* let him understand he had to comply immediately without a boggle, and that after they would replace him again in all his Rights & Priviledges: The *Rinegrave* not suspecting the honorable Word of so august a Crown was overjoy'd to be so advantageously distinguished among so many unfortunate sufferers, and having given his Obedience wrought in others the same acknowledgment, which as they thought was unavoidable,

unavoidable, having without so much as hesitating seen the *Rinegrave* Count perform the like submissions, but when the Count on his side expected they should keep their Word with him, was told they were not the Masters, and that he must make his Applications to the Court, thither then must he take a Journey, & little to the purpose, for instead of gaining the thing he made demand of, they e'en told him he might go as he came, and wonder'd in their Hearts such a petty Fellow as he should be unwilling to hold his Country in Fee of so great a King as was the great King of *France*: A little before such another Answer had been made to the *Palatine* Elector who sending to the Court of *France* to complain of his Country being made daily havoc of by the Licentiousness of the *French* Forces, to an infringement of the late Peace, the complainier was answer'd when a little Prince like that Elector had the Honour to be Neighbour to so great a King 'twas not for such as he to be that nice:

Short

Short and sweet this, hitherto Roses;
but in conclusion we shall have Thorn
and all.

France still claims on their right of
Dependencys, and finding *Spain* weak
& apparently helpless, the County of
Alost is demanded of them as an ap-
pertenance of the late Conquests; *Spain*
troubled at the demand, because *Ou-*
dermond with other Towns and Villa-
ges did all belong to the same County,
let *France* understand the great Iniqui-
ty of her pretended right, but whilst
this was under debate between the *Spa-*
nish Embassador and the Ministers they
yet made more demands as intricate
all out and as perplex as their first;
The County of *Chini* had been granted
France by the Tenure of the Treaty
with all its appertenance, and as those
Dependancies had not receiv'd their
full Explanation in the wording of the
Peace, *France* now become what *Spain*
did use to be, to say, a wrangler, and
full of her fetches, and quibling tricks,
alleged the Dependancies of *Chini*
reacht

reacht to the very Gates of *Luxemburg*, and therefore requir'd to have possession thereof given them by the *Spaniards*, if not they would give it themselves: The *Spanish* Embassador as very able Man as he was, was puzzled at the new quiddity, and demanded time to make his Master acquainted; the time he ask't was granted him, but when expir'd, *France* finding *Spain* endeavouring to elude its pretensions causes Forces openly to march into the Country of *Luxemburg*, blocks up all the High-ways that lead to the County, Town, raises Forts round about, and tho then in the midst of a profound Peace, commits all the acts of an actual Hostility which could possibly be committed in a declar'd War; the Governor of *Luxemburg* sends his Trumpet to the Commander in chief of those Forces to know if *France* mean'd a Declaration of a War with *Spain*: But he was answer'd they meant no such thing, and that they only were about taking possession of what belong'd to them.

Mean

Mean while under the Notion of possession-taking they hindred every thing from coming into the Town of *Luxemburg*, and every thing from going out on't, and if any offer'd to pass their way, they sent them back to the Town again, pretending they came out as Spies upon their actions, and if there came any from the Country, such as their Market-people, or the like with Provisions to sell in Town as they were us'd to do, they sent them back too, having first strip't them of all they had, to teach them not to come again a second time, and if those Country People offer'd to pass them without Provisions were suffer'd to go by after a due Examine of all they had about them, but when they would repass home again, were drove back into the Town, that so the Provisions of the Place might be consumed the sooner.

When for my part, I reflect upon these violent Courses I could not but be extremely surpriz'd to see *England* the
Me-

Mediator and Garanty of the Peace, troubled themselves no further in its due execution, they saw before their Eyes what pass'd, but without the least concern for the visible infraction ; and as if *France* had made all sure upon that hand, pursued in their constant and daily acts of open Hostility ; but yet offer'd still to make *England* the Umpire of their debate, which left *Spain* without all sort of hope ; for upon one side not having confidence enough in *England* to trust its Interest in their hands , upon t'other knew not what well to say to the King of *France* so fairly offering to refer the Matter : Perplext on both hands, *Spain* resolves to put something to the venture of a chance, and seeing the Town of *Luxemburg* must apparently be lost for want of Provisions sent the Governour of the place private Orders to open a passage by force come what will : The Governour who for a long time desir'd no better, sallies out at a time when the *French* least expected him, and setting upon

upon one of their Quarters, charged them home as they just were upon the point of making head to dispute the passage : The *French* made a great resistance, but over-power'd by number, being forc'd to give way, the Governor advancing and joining his convoy which he of long hand held before in a readiness, put his relief into the Town. Some two hundred of the *French* were killed in the action, and about Eighteen or Twenty of the *Spanish*, but among all these not a Man of note lost, nor so much as one Officer.

France no sooner had the News, but thunder'd it against the *Spaniards* as much indeed to blame they quietly would not endure starving : Drew every where presently their Forces down towards the Towns that held for *Spain*, but at the instant of acting with them, *England* hinder'd from further proceeding by making *France* get full satisfaction in the point from *Spain*, who disown'd not only all the Governor of

Luxemburg had done, but offering even to discharge him of his Government, and in short so supinely weak, paid for the Damage in conclusion sustain'd by the *French*, for a certain Sum of Money agreed upon. After this delicate Treaty, the *Blocus* of *Luxemburg* was afresh begun again, and the *French* reinforc't their Quarter, and patrol'd the Avenues duly for their greater security of being in haste catcht as they before had been: Truly I can't contain from a little digression here, and say Posterity will be hardly made believe that in the mid'st of Peace, the one side shall be allow'd them to make War, but the other shall be punisht because they submit not in every thing their Enemies would impose upon them. Howbeit the *Luxemburg* Garrison being large, and the Convoy not sufficient for a long supply began again to feel the same inconveniences it had before: The Governour being a brave Man, who had much rather have chose to die with his Arms in his Hand, then
lead

lead out a life so very shameful and so unworthy of any Man of Courage, was for all that necessitated to bear with a Thousand of their Insolencies, and insults without the least daring to gainsay : For the *French* who well knew his Instructions, and whose Fingers itcht to be doing, would frequently come within halt a Mile sight of the Town, where having trodden down the Corn under their Horses feet made shew of a desying to engage. Whil'st this was doing *France* Treats for *Cazal*, with the Duke of *Mantoua*, which threw not a little Jealousie *Italy* all over : The Emperor too resented it in a high measure for *Cazal*; besides, being a Feif of the Empire, he was by descent too the presumptive Heir, and so doubly intitled as Emperor, and the next near Kinsman to the Duke of *Mantoua*: It was not to be expected, the King of *France* would so much lessen himself to be sending to the Emperor, to demand investure as was customary to be done for all Feifs of the Empire, he was not

a Prince to be prescrib'd the conformity of ordinary rules, and his uncontrollable power freed him in every thing; which indeed Mr. Solicitor General of the Court of *Metz*, of whom I have before spoken, did ingenuously confess as much one day, to some of his Friends taking freedom to be telling him they did not conceive the strength of his Decrees was of validity sufficient to be binding in the case of so many Sovereign Princes: Reply'd he serv'd a Master who had at beck, a Hundred pieces of *Canon*, a Hundred thousand Men, and a Hundred Millions of Money to put those Decrees in Execution. The Taking of *Cazal* was not the only thing *Italy* was alarm'd at, *France*, whose ambition nothing less then the subjection of the whole World could satisfy, began now to grumble too at the Republic of *Genova*, to have that colour of invading its liberty: They of *Genova* send their Ambassador to *France* at the same time, to excuse themselves in what they could, but as *France* was not without her Reasons,

sons, I mean good or bad, the Excuses of the poor *Genoesses* were ill received, took the occasion to pick a New quarrel in requiring them to make restitution of an Estate formerly of the House of *Fieske*, with the Interest of the whole for an Age before since accrued ; now as every Body is well satisfied what the case of the House of *Fieske* is, and how they were, and for what expell'd *Genoua* would be here superfluous to mention : I shall but say, never Demand appear'd more extraordinary then that did, not to say never a more unjust, and a more unreasonable. *France* would oblige a Free State to restore to the Heirs and Successors of a Traitor, and Estate forfeited and confiscated for its delinquency, as if *France* never had her self confiscated, and daily did not confiscate Estates of such as she found faulty, and deficient in their duty: Mean while though the Matter has not been drove much further, 'tis not to be imagin'd notwithstanding wholly laid aside, 'tis a smothering Fire in Ashes,

which one day will consume all *Italy*, if not prevented by the Hand of Heaven; and indeed 'tis not to be thought *France* has quitted therefore the Design of mastering that Commonwealth, because she defers the doing it to another time, for that the present was of more consequence to be looking to the Conquest of *Flanders* which hitherto had been so tedious a work, and now lay naked and exposed to his ambition through the unfortunate diversion of the Imperial Arms: 'Twas then ill Policy to draw so many Enemies upon her Hands at once, whose Business she the easier might all do, the one after the other: 'Twas an advice worth taking which a grand Politician once gave his Children upon the point of Death, caus'd a great many arrows to be laid before them, some of which in bundle, others lose, and bid the Children to try the breaking of those unbound, which they easily snap't in two, then commanded them to try the other, bidding them to break those likewise,

but

but that being more then they were able, took his occasion from that Instance to admonish them to remain ever in Union with one another, if they expected their Enemies should take no hold upon them. Now *France* deals with most of the other Princes, as the Children by those Arrows not bound together, she easily subdues them one after another, which in case they were linkt, and united as they should be, might perhaps be in a posture of reducing her again within the bounds of Reason : Indeed what hinders the setting Armies upon foot as well as *France*, and thereby an endeavor used for the resettling of things in that condition again, where every one concern'd might find his security.

It looks as if our Fore-Fathers were much the pruder People : For I remember well after the Battel of *Pavie*, where *Charles* the Fifth Triumph't over the Affairs and Fortune of *Francis* the First, they wisely consider'd not fit to suffer any more the growth and

mightiness of that Power, which already was become but too formidable among them, and so retrieved again the State of *France* at that time much more desperate, & at a lower Ebb then is ours now. But 'tis not for want of every Bodies knowing what course was taken in the times of our Ancestors, but few they be make a true use of what they know.

But all this while, I perceive not my deviation insensibly stealing me from my Subject, too far carried off by force of Truth: To come then to the point again, I shall tell you, that whilst *Italy* took the alarm at the surrender of *Casal*, another business was then brewing in that Country, which might well occasion its further disturbance. *Savoy*, as every one knows, lies closed up between *France* on one side, and the Provinces of *Spain*: I mean between those Countrys in *Italy* under *Spanish* Dominion: The Neighbourhood of these two Powers has been Reason enough in all former Ages, why the Dukes of *Savoy* enjoy little quiet: For
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at the same time that either of those two Crowns denounced War upon the other, he must of necessity side with one of the two, to prevent his Country from being over-run by both, as is the general case of all Neuters. Now as *Savoy* turn'd very much the Scale to the side it inclin'd to, the two Crowns strove their utmost which should have him of their party, that sometimes the Daughters of *France*, sometimes the Infanta's of *Spain* found Wives of State for that Duke, and the need both had of him, was still the *Mediums* of new advantages from either: *France* who knew at what dear rates that Alliance was sometimes to be purchas'd, projected a Treaty with him, such as for ever should debar him from being *Spanish* any more. The Cardinal *De-strée* they send to *Savoy*, a Relation of that Dutche's, and as she Govern'd all during the Minority of her Son, propos'd to her a Match between the young Duke, and the Infanta of *Portugal*, his Cousin German, Heir presumptive

sumptive of that Crown, the then Prince Regent having no more Children: The Dutcheſs of *Savoy* being Born in *France*, and *French* in all her Inclinations reliſhes the Propoſal with pleaſure: Thinking the Quality of a King of *Portugal*, was every whit Equivalent to a Duke of *Savoy*: But as they have a Law in *Portugal*, which Forfeits in a Daughter her right of Succeſſion to the Crown in caſe of Marriage with a Stranger, that Law how to abolith muſt firſt be thought of; The Cardinal *Deſtrée* in Name of his Maſter undertook the thing: *France* ſends then to *Portugal* to that effect, and as ſhe was in a happy poſt of carrying all before her, did in that conjuncture too carry that Affair, inſomuch as the having of that Law abrogated, and the Dukes Marriage with their Infanta finally agreed upon: The *Grande*es of *Savoy*, without whoſe advice this Buſineſs had been determin'd unſatisfied with the Match, which ended in a deprivation of their natural Prince, and the

the Subordination of a Governour, had their private Cabals to consult the breaking the Neck of the Marriage, and stop it from further going on. I cannot justly say, if they confederated for sake of public good, or meerly for their private ends; howbeit the *Portugal* Match far from being of advantage to the Duke, one may truly say he was a loser by the Bargain, no less then the Princes in general of his Family; besides, whilst he was to have resided in *Portugal* who should have succor'd *Savoy*, in case *France* had had a mind to set up right of Conveniency, a right which they endeavor'd equally to establish as well as right of Dependency, and for no other Reason indeed was the Prince of *Montbelliard* drove out of his Country then that it did accommodate the Crown; But they heeded little all that could be said against it, and still went on their Road, where but a glimpse appear'd of probable success: Madam, the Dutches of *Savoy* smoakt the drift, as well as any, but the

the powerful desire of Sovereign Rule, carried it above all other considerations; and as *Alexander* of *Farnese*, Duke of *Parma* sent off his Mother in former days, not to be oblig'd to share with her the Government of the Low-Countries: So the Dutchess of *Savoy* was for packing away her Son, that she might remain still the absolute Mistress of that State: She knew well enough they would not fail detaining the Duke in *Portugal* to inure him to the ways and customs of a Nation which one day he was design'd to govern; and by the shift secure to her self the Supreme Authority: In the mean while discontents amongst the *Grandeess* encreas'd daily, and have frequent meetings to advise upon what they had to do; could not for all that meet so in private, but the Dutchess had Intelligence, willing to secure her self from the Designs her *Grandeess* might well have of troubling the Government, caused Forces to be fetcht from *France* in good store to be dispers'd in the Neighbourhood about,

under a pretence of covering *Cazal*.

The Nobility of *Savoy*, though alarm'd at the *French* assisting thus of the *Dutchess*, gave not over for all that their Intentions of helping their young Duke, and having found her out in her Treaty with *France*, into whose hands she had agreed to deliver the most important places of strength in the Country, in Bledge of some Loans of Money she had borrow'd of them, for the defray of her Son's Marriage, were unanimously resolv'd to hazard all than suffer thus a general ruine; and as they watch't their opportunity to compass their design, the *Dutchess* her self favour'd them with one, which they conceiv'd might serve their turn, for having left her Son at *Turin*, contrary to her custom, whilst her self slept a Mile or two out of Town; the *Grande*s, took that Time to speak to their Duke: That he must look upon himself in *French* hands, every where surrounding him as now their Prisoner in a manner, that the *Dutchess* his Mother had sold
them

them his best Towns; and would yet be felling what remain'd if not prevented by his great goodness to his People: That she sent him to *Portugal* not to be the Sovereign there, but that at home she might be so: That in case he met with freedom to his Person there, he must at least expect to meet a Master, whereas if he vouchsafed to stay with them, he should meet with nothing but their entire obedience and dutiful respects, that the *Portuguisers* naturally hated Strangers; and if they did assent to his marrying their Infanta, 'twas by constraint, and with regret: That he might rest assur'd the Prince Regent once dead, they would retract again from what they had done, and bar him of his Crown as formerly they had done to the King of *Spain*, that it was not easie to foresee what might then become of him, for that the *French* having once seized his Country perhaps might not be in humor to restore it him again.

These remonstrances startled the
young

young Duke, who yet had not Brains ripe enough to apprehend among a great many Truths they represented, there was Lies in an equal number, he ask't them what best for him to act to shun so many threatning misfortunes : They answer'd no other way left, then the securing of his Mother ; the expedient was surprizing, but finding they had struck from the first an impression upon the young Prince, gave him no time to the recollections of a Natural affection, prest him with telling his own safety lay for the future in his own power, to resolve for good and all of being a happy or unhappy Duke the remainder of his life ; as for their parts resolv'd to be the lookers on of what every Day produced no longer, had design'd retiring into some other Country, where at least they should gain that comfort of Knowing they had no kind of Hand in any thing that would be attempted against his Dignity or Person. A few Tears artificially shed, or out of compassionate good Nature,

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accomplisht perswading of the Duke, calls for Pen and Paper, and signs a Warrant immediately for the seizing of his Mother: In the mean while before they could get together to take their measures for execution of their Order, the Dutcheſs was return'd into the Town, and being arriv'd at her *Palais* was extremely surprized to find her Son ſad and penſive, and much beſide himſelf, aſkt what he ail'd, conjuring him to tell her, but finding him not anſwering, ſhe adds to her entreaties the blandiſhments of a Mother, as ſhe embraced him, perceiv'd he wep't, and Tears to tricle down his Cheeks which troubled her to the higheſt degree, fell then to a redoublement of muching, calls him her own deareſt Child, falls her ſelf a crying, and in the end ſo ſoftens, he confeſſes to her they had ſurprized him, and that he had ſigned an Order for the commitment of her Perſon: The Dutcheſs was her ſelf ſtruck with amaze at the ſort of News, but having now no time to loſe, and that

that every Minut was to her of highest consequence, sent for those about her immediately she could most confide in, doubles the Palace Guards, and causes those to be seiz'd in fine who had resolv'd her ruine & makes her *manifesto*, those very Persons were intended to take away the young Duke, and carry him to *Spain*, which is more then I can say they meant, not knowing whether true or not, or whether only a Sham to render them the more odious to the People: Be it as 'twill, the Dutcheß having once retriev'd her self from so very great a danger, order'd the *French Forces* to March into the Town thereby to shew she trusted more to them, then to those of the Country.

A certain Print for all this remain'd with the young Duke of what had been remonstrated; insomuch that though his Equipage was gone already before to *Portugal*, and himself soon to follow after, he talk't no more of the Voyage: And as still some body there was in place about him, who privately che-

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risht the suspicion they had rais'd,
 broke him clean off, order'd his Family
 to return their ways home again, to the
 unspeakable satisfaction of his whole
 People; *France* only remain'd much
 mortifid, promising already to it self the
 conjunction of *Savoy* to that Kingdom,
 and to enchase it amongst the fairest
 Flowers of the Crown: The dissatis-
 faction conceiv'd lay not long hid, the
 Count of *Soisson* who in case of decease
 of the young Duke was Heir presump-
 tive to the Dukedom of *Savoy*, after
 the Death of Prince *Carignan* his Uncle,
 was then in love with a private Damo-
 sel in *France*, call'd *Madamoseille de*
Beauvais; all the Relations had thither-
 to opposed the thing, in fear of his de-
 sign to marry her, the King himself had
 signifi'd as much, and that he ought to
 think of bestowing himself some other
 way, but being thus disoblig'd by the
Grandeess of *Savoy*, he suffer'd Count
Soisson to do what he had most mind to,
 to humble him, and that Count did do
 what his passion perswaded.

This

This what past in *Piemont*, let us now go see a little what a doing in *Germany*; *France* for a long time had a Months mind to the City of *Strasburgh*, it had defeated them a number of its measures during the late War, and *France* had so well felt the importance of that place to resolve upon the having it, cost it ne're so much: To speak of having it by force, lookt a little difficult, and to do that a War must be openly declar'd, and the adjacent Princes round about would have engag'd in her defence. The easier way then seem'd the getting it by trick: A Resident they kept at *Strasburgh*, in Character more of Spy then public Minister, whose Business was to observe all that past; he had given the King often times account no good was to be done till those Burghermasters of the Town in present station were out of place, when new came to be made, had by that time gain'd a great many of the Votes, got Persons elected to the Magistracy affection'd to the Interests of *France*, ready fitted to make sale of their Country for a piece of

Money, with these after that, he strikes a Bargain for the delivery of the Town upon the first occasion, and they for their Reward to have each a Hundred Thousand Crowns a Man. The Market being thus set, these Traytors give the Town to consider the great Burthens of their Debt they stood charg'd with occasion'd by her vast Expences incurr'd in the late War, and that now in time of Peace they should reduce the Garison which was too numerous: That the King of *France*, whom they had the most cause to fear, had his whole thoughts took up towards *Italy*, whither he had drawn the best part of all his Forces, and that before he could march them back again they should have time enough to implore the assistance of their Neighbours, whose proper concern in their preservation was too great not to afford them aid; happen what would they had the Winter before to look about them, which was now at hand: That the King was great way distant from them, as indeed he was, and Summer then near spent, there

there was no manner of likelihood, he durst undertake any thing actually that season, & by the means save a good Sum of Money in their Purses; that when Spring time came, they then should see what other measures were fittest to be taken.

The advice took with the People, who were all for the sparing point, and for all the ablest men amongst them could formally oppose what the People once would have of necessity to be, there was no withstanding, one part of the Garison must then be dismiss'd, and which was remarkable of those the Forces of the Eldest standing: But as the King of *France* lay perdue, but for the occasion, took Journey forthwith from *Fountain-bleau* at the same time caus'd his Men to draw down with expedition and invests the City, at a time they imagin'd him in the midst of his Kingdom. Some playing with the Cannon there was upon both sides, to take off all suspicion off Intelligence, which hinder'd not, but those of *Strasburgh* well enough understood themselves betray'd. And tho

they now understood so with the latest, they yet entertain'd thoughts of making a Defence: But a rabble of People hired at the same time by the *French* Resident, or it may be as well by the Burgemasters themselves came flocking to the Town-house, crying out for a surrender of the Town, which otherwise would be suddenly consum'd by the Fire of the Booms, and by the red hot Bullets. The Burgemasters soon listn'd to that demand, cause beat a Parly, set up the White Colours for token of a general readiness to capitulate, and in a word to say all, yields up the Town.

I do not condemn *France*, for an act of this importance, since not of humor to matter much her Faith in point of Treaty; but what I am most scandal'd at, to have the Face to colour it with a shew of Justice. The Emperor indeed having sent Count *Mansfeld* to complain of the Breach of Peace, was answer'd that they much wonder'd the Emperor would concern himself, where
he

he had not to do, that it was but lawful for the King to reduce a rebellious City: That *Strasburgh*, as the Capital of *Alsace* did belong to him, by Ver-
 tue of the *Munster* Treaty, and if he did not lay hold on't sooner 'twas be-
 cause he had more pressing work in
 Hand: But any would but answer
 me, if that City had been granted
 him as pretended, why entertain'd he
 there his public Ministers so long time,
 why did he in the last War treat with
 her in Order to her remaining Neuter,
 and why so often complaining of her
 not remaining so? But all that *France*
 can say upon the subject, is indeed not so
 much as worth an answer, & so I proceed
 to her Enterprizes elsewhere: The taking
 of *Strasburgh* open'd the Eyes of a great
 many *German* Princes, lull'd for a long
 time like *England* in a profound Sleep.
 Every one was for revenging the inju-
 ry, but when they came to act accor-
 ding there was none but met with a
 Difficulty and *Lyon* in the way, one
 had no Money to begin a War, another

for not hazarding his Men, which he reserv'd for some other time, another he would first know, to whom the Town should fall when retaken; in short, if any seem'd to be accorded together 'twas but as they conspir'd each by their mutual ill conducts in the twisting of Cords for their own Bondage. In the mean while *France* lost not her good time thus in unuseful Discourses: During the last War had all along kept a correspondence with *Teckely*, by the help of one *Boban* of *Ardenn* by Nation, and whom I remember to have seen a Lieutenant of Horse in the *French* Army. He afterwards was in Service with the *Pale*, but being reform'd upon the Peace made between the Port and that Nation, went to seek his Fortune with *Teckely*, who took care to advance him, for that besides being a Man of good parts, was very likely to make a good Officer; some three or four years since he had been in *France*; discours'd the Ministers, & settled there correspondence with them, that being call'd up-

on to make good his Word he had given them, order'd so his matters, as to content their expectations, and to the purpose; *Teckely* engages to give diversion in *Hungary*, and that he might be the better in condition to bring in the *Turks*, has granted him great supplies of Money, and far greater promis'd him, if once able to put in execution, the thing he had undertaken.

This Business has been so generally known, that 'tis not to be doubted, by any who have had the least instruction of what passes in the World: Letters went from *France* to *Germany*, from *Germany* to *Bohan* by the means of a Secretary, to a certain Envoy the King there entertain'd, and from *Bohan* to *Teckely*: The Secretary lay long by the heels for this Business, and had not the King of *France* clapt up Count *Mansfeld's* Secretary in requital, he had not been freed upon so easie a reckoning; but he being committed to the *Bastille*, and told he might be sure to have the same usage, whatever the other had at
the

the hands of the Emperor, oblig'd him quickly to post some away to *Vienna* to give notice: The Emperor upon that stopt any further proceedings, and rather chose to forgive the Guilty, then destroy the Innocent; yet to let see how sensible he was of the Injury, had the Prisoner let loose, but at *Brisac*, where for the greater Marks of Infamy he was brought upon a Cart, bolted with Irons Hand and Foot, and under Guard sufficient; 'twas fear'd *France* provoked by the Treatment, might do as much to Count *Mansfeld's* Secretary; but whether out of a better knowledge of herself, or that she fear'd offering violence to the Right of Nations, of which I must needs say she is a most Religious Observer, he was let go out of the *Bastille*, without using of any Reprisals in the case, and even suffer'd to continue in *Paris*, where I have been told he yet remains.

The Mighty Huff that follow'd after the taking of *Strasburgh* being vanisht into Air: *France* as I said before, whose
Stomach

Stomach still mended at the sight of a fresh Dish, began again in Right of her Dependencies, which in proportion to her greedy Belly she extended, to demand one part of *Liege*, even to the Moity of its Capital City, mean while as a Country frontier to *Germany*, as well as the Low-Countries, and for the designs she had on both it was expedient for her purpose to meet with no resistance, she had during the late Wars, thrown down all the Forts, and dismantled the Walls, already was in possession of the Castle of *Dinan*, by force of an Article in the *Nemiquen* Treaty by which the *Spaniards* lay under an Obligation to procure them the Propriety of from the Elector of *Cullen*, Prince and Bishop of *Liege*, to whom it of Right pertain'd, and the same to get ratifi'd at the Diet of *Ratisbonne*, or otherwise to give them *Charlemont* in stead. The *Spaniards* not able to prevail with the Bishop of *Cullen*, to dismember the place from off his Country, or rather *France* having underhand

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hinder'd him from dismembring to have always pretext in hand to be tormenting of the poor *Spaniard* with, when they so pleas'd : Besides, the Diet of the Empire would consent to no such alienation ; *France* finding all these obstacles lay daily pressing of the *Spaniards* to put *Charlemont* into their Hands, according to the Tenure of the Treaty ; the *Spaniards* they hung back all they could, as if they had foreseen what would come on't. But at last seeing *France*, who well knew how to make her use of the misunderstandings of one and t'other, threatned to fall downright upon *Flanders* if they made not good their Engagements, *Charlemont* was deliver'd, which is one of the best places *France* is this day in possession of, though possessing of a great many good ones. When once *Charlemont* was in their Hands, the redelivering of *Dinan*, was no more mention'd, and so blocks up *Namur* by the *Meuse*, that when she pleases, can hinder any thing from coming
to

to it by Water carriage: For as Mistress of the whole *Liege* Country, I know not which way *Namur* can receive relief, but on the Land side. The *Spaniards* might complain their Heart out of being thus dealt with *France*, was ne're the more concern'd, but the contrary, the first to cry out, The *Spaniards* had not perform'd to them their Peace of *Nimeguen*, since as yet they could not oblige them to a rendition of the County of *Alost*, which of Right did to them belong.

All the Electors, bordering upon the *Rhine*, had a Crow to pull with *France*, about her Right of Dependance by the help of it pretending to swallow all places that lay commodious for her purpose, but when the thing demanded was had, or indeed the thing she would give her self, like the Fire which having consum'd all near to it insensibly spreads it self to places more remote, so she having laid her clutches upon an infinite Tract of Country pushes on her designs upon the very Capital Towns

Towns of the Electoral Princes ; to that effect alledg'd she that the ground where stood the Stables belonging to the Elector of *Mayence* did appertain with all the *Hame*, Country Soil, remarkable for the excellent Rhenish that there grows : Her pretensions upon the City of *Cullen*, and upon that of *Mayence*, bounds not with so small a Business ; *France* maintain'd that as these two Cities were much encreas'd by length of time, all that had been built for Four or Five preceeding Ages, was built upon what was granted her by Vertue of the Treaty, that therefore the buildings must be demolisht, and the City restrain'd again to its Antient limits , or the Proprietors of those Houses from thence forward to pay Allegiance to the Crown of *France*.

These Things thus acted by that King, nothing more could shew how extremely they were deceived who said he aimed so much at having his Son chose King of the *Romans*, so far was he from designing that he should
ever

ever arrive at the Empire, that 'twas his Business to give it rather an absolute overthrow; and so began first with the Electors, that for the future such a thing as Emperor might be no more in Nature.

The Emperor, the Princes of the Empire, the *Spaniards*, and in fine, all those of the Cordial Allies saw but too plain the tendency of all these Designs; but it seems such was the Fate of *Europe*, whilst they lost whole years in deliberating about trifles, *France* brings them under in the mean while, and prepares their Chains, whose weight is known by none, but by those they load: For in fine, her own Ancient Subjects, and those very Men, who daily spend themselves to the last drop of their Blood in assisting them to compass their intentions meet with the same sort of Treatment is mett to others, and to begin with those who serve in their Armies must be understood are all obliged to make a profuse Expence till their

their all be whole run out, when she
 Knows they have nothing left them,
 they pick a Fob-quarrel as one may
 call it, are after all glad to take to an
 Hospital for the final recompence
 of Service. 'Tis for that end, has she
 truly built, and that a most sumptuous
 one, but which stands them not in no
 great matter of keeping, having laid
 hold on certain Lands which the par-
 ticular Devotion of some People had
 given towards the relief of Lepers, and
 converted to the use of that Hospital,
 but as those Rents suffice not for the
 maintenance or at least will have it so
 supposed, she detains in her Hands a cer-
 tain Sum from both of the pay of Soul-
 dier and Officer, and that way makes
 them purchase their Places beforehand
 which each is very well pleased to do
 for that they are satisfied, thither they
 all must come and lay their Bones.
 And those out of her Service have not a
 much better time on't, for though not
 oblig'd to so great an Expence as others
 are, they squeeze them too little by lit-
 tle

tle till they have squeezed out the last of what they have. And though they have continu'd some time in Peace, they have diminish'd nothing of their Taxes, so that their King is the only Gainer by the War, all besides losers.

The *Franch* County he has added to his Provinces with a great many more several Conquests, which have very much augmented his Revenue, which by his several new impositions he has greatly added to, readier to lay more on then to suppress the Old. Now if they who serve, and who serve him not have so much to suffer, there yet remains another sort of People in that State who certainly are yet much more to be pittied: I mean those of the Reform'd Religion, who must endure on all sort of outrageous violences, for tho they do not outright put them to death by the Hands of a Hangman, as they are daily made to perish by little and little, their death is but the crueller in that it is the more languishing, and have

for all that never given but Eminent
 proofs of their Fidelity and Allegi-
 ance; and though when *Henry* the
 Fourth came to the Crown did he desert
 them, it came not into their Thoughts
 to do as much by him, which at that
 time had wholly ruin'd his Affairs;
 some time they did remain quiet, and
 enjoy'd the benefit of their Edicts, but
 just it was they who were the great dis-
 turbors of *Europe*, should too disturb a
 company of poor unhappy wretches, ex-
 cluded for ever from all Marks of Ho-
 nour and places of trust, have this how-
 ever to comfort themselves, that for
 their Religion 'tis that they suffer.
 Amongst the many of all sorts *France*
 thus undoes, whether within or without
 the Kingdom, the Prince of *Orange*
 was the only, as one may say, that
 nos'd them. And though his power
 was no more then what the Common-
 wealth of *Holland* were pleased to li-
 mit him, his great Heart was not so
 bounded, and was incomparably grea-
 ter then his Fortune, he never gave
 over

Over remonstrating to some, that rather they should choose to perish, then submit to Power so terribly dangerous, to other some the absolute necessity of arming against her: many things that Prince had retrencht himself to raise a Fund for the subsistence of some well deserving Officers, which that State at making of the Peace had reform'd, that so through necessity of Bread, they might not be oblig'd to seek Employment elsewhere, and when he had occasion for them, might know where to find them. *France* which knew she had in him an Enemy she most of all fear'd, resolv'd he should feel in his Personal concerns, a touch of her Resentment, not to say of her Injustice, his Principality of *Orange* lies between *Languedoc* and *Avignon*, which as Sovereign of, he had enjoy'd, he, and his Predecessors from the time it past out of the House of *Chalon* into that of *Nassaw*. But that King who was for suffering no Sovereign in *France*, nor in *Europe* neither, besides himself, had the Town of

Orange dismantled ; and the Prince of *Orange* left without any reparation, what complaint soever at that time he made of it to the King never so Instant: But the King stopt not there in relation to his Affairs, for having resolv'd to strip him absolutely of that Sovereignty, he makes the Dutcheſs of *Nemours* put in, who by colour of some foolish and idle pretences, had the Prince cited at Law to their Courts of Judicature, where not giving his appearance, the Principality of *Orange* was adjudg'd her; no body can, no more than I, tell upon what bottom that Decree could ground: For if by Vertue of some pretended old Entail from the House of *Chalon*, to which they will ſay the Predeceſſors of the Prince of *Orange* did not comply with, as it is eaſie to give proof ſufficient to the contrary, 'tis not without a likelihood of Truth to ſay, that tho Madam *de Nemours* could make out the Title, her time was lapſ'd in point of claim ; for that by the Laws of that Kingdom, ſuch at leaſt as I have ſeen
them

them in case of Custom. the prescription of Thirty years Possession was sufficient to quiet a Title, and that the Prince of *Orange*, I mean, the Prince and his Predecessors together have enjoy'd for above a Hundred and fifty years: But whether this be so or not, it hinder'd not, but *Madam de Nemours* obtain'd her Decree, which tho has for all that been since revok'd, in the mean while the Prince has sent Mr. *Hemsius* to *Paris*, to shew the King the wrong done him: The *States General* upon their part have particularly recommended that Affair to their Embassadour in *France*, but hitherto ineffectually; and tho 'tis now six Months that Mr. *Hemsius* is working at it, it yet appears not to have made any progress; but let us pass to some other matter, this being but trifle in comparison with what I have yet to say.

The King of *Poland* had ever been a Friend of *France*, 'twas by her means he got the Crown which every foot was sending him presents, in token of her

Friendship, had given him her Order of Holy Ghost, and the only Prince she in fine, thought well of in *Europe* besides. Now let us see how they came to break with him, and at whose Door lies the fault; 'tis indeed with difficulty I must discover this, but out it must being got so far there is no going back: The Money sent by *France* to *Teckely* was no useless supply, he had for it engag'd the *Turks* to fall upon the Emperor; and *France* having due Intelligence of all that past, both of time and place, and of the other side preferr'd the carrying on of her Intregues to all other concerns, made no Bones of Soliciting the King of *Poland* at that time to attack the Emperors Country upon his side, as the right of conveniency was an attractive sort of right in her Eyes, which sway'd with her, imagin'd it might do the same with the King of *Poland*, and propos'd to him the Conquest of *Silesia*, where in probability he was not like to meet with any great resistance from the Moment the *Ottoman* Forces

Forces had made their descent into *Hungary*, the King of *Poland* who is a sharp Prince, and who needs no prompters to teach him his Lesson, thought it improper to his own Honour, as to that of his Crown, to make use of the advice, on the contrary, he accepts of an Alliance with the Emperor then propos'd him. by which they mutually engaged by League Offensive and Defensive to assist each other against the *Turk*: *France* had no sooner learnt what the King of *Poland* had done but her former Kindness was immediately chang'd into an irreconcilable hate, sends to the Marquis of *Vitry* her Ambassadour in that Court a Man of Parts, and good at an Intregue, to employ his skill to set all at work in creating misunderstandings betwixt him and his people, and *Morstein* high Treasurer of *Poland*, who was a Pensioner of *France*, and where he had thoughts to settle himself, and where he already had purchas'd great possessions, assists *Vitry* in his design; already

had they tamper'd with some of the discontented Senators, who talk't at no lower rates then the obliging the King of *Poland* to relinquish the Government. For the purpose already cast their Eyes upon a Person they had design'd the Throne to in his stead; When as good fortune would have it, the King of *Poland* intercepted a Letter of *Morstein's* writ in Cyphers, he sends for him forthwith, and having enquir'd of him the meaning of the Letter, and finding he endeavour'd to shift the Truth, bid him give the Key, *Morstein* reply'd 'twas with his Wite, which forc't the King to send for her, when she came, and found for what the King had sent for her, told, she had burnt the Key, and not being able to get out any better account, commanded the Commitment of them both under a strong Guard till he sifted the affair a little more narrowly: I shall say no more upon this Chapter; every one knows the *French* Ambassador convinc'd of Tampering in the Business,

Business, a certain Senator out of pure
 love to his King and Country was bold
 enough to say in full assembly, speaking
 of *Morstan*, that for attempts of a less na-
 ture the *Turks* had given Two hundred
 Bastinadoes to an Embassadour of
France, and 'twas his Opinion, Mr.
De Vitry deserv'd four hundred :
 The King of *Poland*, a sagacious
 Prince, and great Politician, would suf-
 fer him to say no more, for fear the heat
 he was in might transport him too far,
 hinder'd also the Entry of his Opinion
 upon their publick Records, contenting
 himself to let Mr. *De Vitry* know he
 had strain'd his Character of Embassa-
 dour ; Mr. *De Vitry* remain'd not long
 after this in *Poland*, and if ever he have
 Embassy elsewhere, I make no doubt
 the Princes they send him to, will take
 due care to watch his Water. I have
 formerly toucht upon some circum-
 stances of *Luxemburg*, but as insensi-
 bly I fell to other subjects, 'tis yet
 not unseasonable to relate what was
 the success, though to have done
 things

things, exactly methodical it should have been before handled. As the Conquest of *Strasburgh*, and the acquisition of *Casal* had strangely alarm'd both Emperor and *Spaniard*, had been instant with all their Neighbouring Princes to use their Endeavours for their regaining of them again, but as some were feeble in all respects, others gain'd by the *French*, they remitted all to the Diet of *Franckfort*, where whole Months were spent in canvassing a Pass-port, four or five Months more took up in a debate whether they should speak *Latin*, high *Dutch* or *French*, that so far from hopes of some Redress that way our Disease became the more incurable. These delatories then making the *Imperialists* and *Spain* despair of gaining their point by means of the Diet, they by concerted Measures march their Forces towards *Strasburgh* and *Casal*, which the *French* was then beginning to fortifie, & which lay almost every where open for that the old works had been thrown down to put new in the room :

The

The Emperor & *Spaniard* were but in an ill condition to go through with any thing they undertook. But the King of *France* newly settled in his Conquest of those two places, imagining they marcht not their Forces but with some design, and might not be without holding some private Intelligence in both the Towns, raises the *Blocus* of *Luxemburg* to have Forces in readines to oppose.

Now as he was willing to have the thanks of that action, sends for the Marquis of *Fuentes* Embassadour of *Spain*, to tell him, that upon the advice he had receiv'd the *Turk* was falling upon *Hungary*, he thought good to withdraw his Forces from *Luxemburg*, that so the King of *Spain* might have the greater liberty to assist the Emperor : The Marquis of *Fuentes* who knew well enough what to think of the Business, made his Compliment of thanks to his Majesty notwithstanding, as an act of great grace and favor, but amongst Friends where he could be free, would be telling them what
was

was the real cause of so great a change, which was in every Bodies mouth already who had but the least smacker-ing in publick Affairs: And indeed if I may be allow'd a little to argue the point, who is it does not see the art of this management was too too gross to pass upon good Eyes? For if true, *France* had such good natur'd, and such pious considerations, why has she since contradicted them by so many of her actions to the contrary? why a correspondence with *Teckely*? why Intregues carried on in *Poland*? why those Alliances with *Denmark* and *Brandenburgh*? why Princes so warmly ply'd to draw them to her side? And in short, why those Huffs at the Imperial Diet, if they consent not to her pretensions? I know before hand what answer I shall have, I know nothing less will be allow'd neither in regard to *Teckely* nor to the King of *Poland*, that to what concerns the rest will be answer'd, it was the Master-piece of a Politick King vers'd in King-craft, and the Arts of

Go-

Government to be making sometimes such sort of Alliances which have their use, not so much in order to the support of War abroad amongst his Neighbours, as to hinder his Neighbours from carrying the War home to his own door. I do know, as I said, the unthinking part of Mankind may be put upon in disowning of the one, and in giving some kind of gloss to palliate the other, but I would a little fain know if they can answer this too which I am now about saying, *France* was willing to raise the *Blocus* of *Luxemburg* a whole year before the *Turks* came down upon *Hungary*, and when effectually they came with a Vengeance he frames a Camp in *Alsatia*, to hold the Emperor in play, makes another in *Flanders*, to oblige *Spain* to be upon her Guard, a Camp upon the River *Soare* he orders, to frighten the Electors, and in fine, has another Camp drawn upon the *Saonne* to keep the rest of *Europe* in a Jealousie: *France* would shew to the World she becomes less rapacious upon the considerations

derations of the great misfortunes that hung now over the Head of *Christendom*, and when those misfortunes are actually befallen her, it then Thunders, Threats and Rants, and lets the Diet be roundly told he onely will give but such certain short day to grant her unjust pretentions in and if not then granted would do her self that right by force of Arms: And to be doing as well as saying, presents with a great Army upon the Frontier, ready at a mouthfull to swallow several of the *Spanish* Provinces; War indeed they can't be said to make, but make altogether as much mischief, by their hindring those Princes which she just dreaded as she did the *Turk*, from employing their Forces in favour of the Emperor: The Emperor indeed himself obliged to leave his to guard the *Rhine*, whilst a Company of Infidels invades his Dominions, ravages to the very Heart of his Country, and carries off for Slaves a hundred Thousand Souls, burns his Palaces, lays waste the Country

try round, and in conclusion claps Siege to *Vienna*, his Capital City, and place of Residence.

But I perceive not all this while, that having but now documented others, I insensibly fall into the same Error myself I would have them avoid: I fall off arguing the point, as if every one could not do it as well without me, let us have done then with these kind of entertainments, and go on to our Examine of other places whether *France* aspiring to the Universal Monarchy be Truth, or Fiction, or rather let us see if she already usurps not upon the right of Sovereigns as if she actually were the Mistress of the World : Let us see what she is about, with her Mines in all the Courts of *Europe*; not that I pretend to say Policy is a thing forbidden amongst Princes, but that her meaning may no more be doubted of, every one can tell what an Errand she sent the Republic of *Genoua*, whose Coat she saith would pick a hole in, sends word she will not have her put her Gally's

Gally's out, lest they should come to joyn with those of *Spain*, if otherwise should take it for an act of Hostility, and should use her accordingly as an Enemy declared: The *Hollanders* just so dealt with about a Month or two since, upon the intent they had of sending some new Ships to the King of *Swede*: So that over those two Commonwealths, where she hath nothing to do, she already Lords it as absolute Sovereign, she will not suffer Free States, who have bought their Liberty with the Price of their Blood shall think to make Alliances, and succour their Allies, and they that call themselves the eldest Sons of the Church can yet suffer an Alliance with her most mortal Enemy: But then let us see how she deals with those that leave her Interest, and those it self, who are mean spirited enough to adhere to her, let us look a little upon the different Springs she sets at work to bring her matters about; what says she not of the Duke of *Bavaria*, for deserting the
side,

side, and his so very generously embracing that of the Emperor; what does she not at *Leige*, where she makes it her Business to foment the Rebellion of that People against their lawful Prince, that so the Prince not able to master them, may not with the assistance of other Princes be in a post to make a Barrier of that City, and stop her passage that way into the Territories of other States? What does she not act at *Cullen*, where the Inhabitants are all banding one against t'other, and cutting one anothers Throats, whilst the Enemy is at their Gates, ready to devour? What not at *Hamburgh* and *Lubec*, where Intregues apparent as the Sun are carrying on to the ruine both of their Liberty and Country? What leave they undone in the Courts of the *Lunehourg* Princes, where People banisht *France* are most in Credit, but banisht after such a fashion as to return again into that Kingdom, when they will, and privately to see, and discourse the Ministers? Indeed what is she not brewing

in the Emperors Court it self, where she foments Jealousies among the chief, where she opens the very Cabinet Counsels with her Silver Key, where not one resolution can be taken, but she gets notice of, at the same time? Some may say, I discourse but of these affairs conjecturally: I shall most willingly leave them to their own thoughts after, saying, what I have in answer.

After the routing the Marshal of *Crequi* at the Seige of *Treves*, *France* lay open to the prevailing side, there then stood no more Forces in their way, and had they been so minded might well have carried the Terror of their Arms into the Heart of the Country: The *French* were much afraid they would, and begun to pack their most valuable goods within the wall'd Towns, when *Mr. De Louvois* told a certain Person with whom I had particular acquaintance during the time I was in *France*, and whom I have it from, that the Enemy would act no farther that *Campagne*, and were then upon

upon their drawing off; I willingly would ask now if this was news one could reasonably well credit in the then present posture of Affairs, if one ought not to be supernaturally gifted, if one needed not a spirit of Revelation to be believing the contrary to what every one else had reason to believe: But what will not a Man do, as a certain old Author has remark't, who devotes his whole thought to become rich? To that very effect have the *Suisses* took the Bridle in their Mouths by the Fort of *Huninghen*, and made sale both of Liberty and Country; a Counsellor of their State might remonstrate his Heart out in full assembly, the Interest those People had to be early in their opposition to a power, who in her ambitious thoughts devour'd *Europe*, the Pensioners of *France* soon stops his Mouth, and as they struck the greatest stroke with that Common-wealth, must submit to what they pleas'd to do: That way 'twas that Nation suffer'd without opposing the *Franch* County to be sei-

zed by *France*, from whence it might have hoped the speedy assistance of a Neighbour : I speak not of a great many more things happen'd of the same batch in the time of the late Wars, will seem too superannuated, and too trifling : For in fine, who is't, but right well knows that to be the opening Key the *French* have with unlockt the Gates of so many Towns ; every one can tell 'tis with that Instrument she renders all undertakings to her prejudice Abortive, and did retard the Siege of *Philipsburgh* ; but 'twere too much work to say here how very useful their Coin has been in their regard, and how very prejudicial to the World besides. And yet can't hold from speaking of a late passage happen'd in *Denmark*, to shew she is no such squanderer neither of her Money, as one would well imagine, *Denmark* becoming Pensioner to *France*, or say rather took Her Money to act as *France* would have her, *Mr. Colbert*, through whose hands the Money went design'd for that Court, having
fancy

fancy to try, how the *Dane* would take it to have his Pension retrencht, caus'd write to that effect to the *French* Embassadour in *Denmark* by the Hand of *Mr. Colbert De Croissy* his Brother, whose Province 'tis to take care of *Foreign* Affairs; the Embassadour having receiv'd his Instructions went immediately to wait upon the King of *Denmark* surprized in the highest Nature, at the proceeding told him, he had no answer to return, but should give the King of *France*, one by the hands of his own Envoy then in Court, and at the same time send Directions to his Envoy to speak to the King in the *Business*, and to let him know how ill he took it at his hands: The King told the Envoy of *Denmark*, that he understood not what 'twas he spoke to him about, that his Embassadour had acted without order, that 'twas never his thought neither to add nor diminish any thing in the Treaty he had made with the King his Master, and should call home his Embassadour to teach him under-

taking thus things of his own Head, so the poor Embassadour was Sacrificed just like the Governor of *Luxemburg*, disown'd by the *Spaniards*, as before related: *France* too disowns her Embassadour to preserve Amity with the Crown of *Denmark*.

It now remains to inspect the cause why *France* so potent in her Arms, and knowing how disunited and divided were all her Neighbours, has for all that been so long without engaging. To this a reason is given with much facility, nor is there in it much of puzzle. The private Alliance she had made with the *Turks*, was the String to her Bow she most trusted to, but that Alliance could not be expected should produce the wish't effect of a sudden, for the Truce then a foot between the Emperor and the Port expired but in the Year 1682. and had a mind it should expire first before any thing was to be undertaken, was not over sure whether the *Turks*, whose Faith in that affair could not be well relied on, would effectually

fectually declare against the Emperor, or whether would accept those very advantageous Terms propos'd by the *Imperialists*, on the other hand she was upon the fortifying of a world of places, where much time was requisite to finish the works, and was against the Rules of common Policy, not to enter upon a War, till she had seen those places in some probable Perfection, and thitherto truly one might do her that right she had let slip no favourable occasion, but on the contrary had been imprudently done to act otherwise : And indeed to shew clearly her Design was to draw her men into the Field from the very critical Minut : The *Turks* began the dance with theirs, that no sooner had advice they had fall'n upon *Hungary*; but the King parts from *Versailles* to head their Army, at the same time a Detachment had already been drawn of those encamp't upon the *Saone*, with orders for their March towards the Frontier, and nothing now in Mouths of the

French, but the besieging of *Cullen* or *Philipsburgh*, when all of a sudden a very extraordinary piece of news alter'd the resolutions of that Prince: he had heard the *Hungarians* had abandon'd the pass at *Raab*, and that the *Turks* without the least of stopping at *Raab*, or *Comorra*, as was pretended they would have stop'd at, advance on with an innumerable, vast Army towards *Vienna*, which they had determin'd to besiege: Now *France* was well enough satisfi'd the *Turks* should make Diver-sion, but sorry they should make themselves Master of the Empire which he now look't on as his proper Patrimony: *France* trusted to their besieging *Raab* and *Comorra* places of great strength both by Art and Nature, and that they would spend both their time and pains before they gain'd their point, in the interim made sure of doing his own Business, and to oblige the Electors seeing themselves on all hands so surrounded with Enemies to condescend to what she pleas'd her self: Hoped
after

after the reinforcing his own, with the Forces of the Empire, to march them straight up to the *Turk*, & force him to a Battel or to retire home again: Noble designs of a great Prince, and brim full of Ambition; But learning as I said, the *Turks* had laid Seige to *Vienna* was oblig'd to take new measures: To that effect he found it was no more to his purpose to set upon the Empire which another was about taking the possession of by the taking of a single Town: For as that was the only place of Defence it was possible for him indeed to have caus'd a great deal of desolation, and terror of his side, but was the wrong way to settle in the Throne.

France then chose rather at a distance to take her prospect of what might be the event of the Seige of *Vienna*, and send her Creatures about still representing to all the Princes of the Empire, how the Emperor was but a weak Prince, fitter to hold beads than a Scepter, and to sit in a Cloister by much then at Helm: That the Empire

pire was Tottering, and even now ready to fall under his conduct, that henceforth they would need rather a stout, vigorous Prince, which with a Thousand good qualities besides understood perfectly well that of Leading of an Army: That if the *Turks* come once to get *Vienna*, they ought all to expect no better then absolute destruction: That their true and only means to be secured from so imminent a mischief was to implore the aid of the King of *France*, who would soon listen to it, provided they elected the *Dauphin* King of the *Romans*, as 'twas a thing he had been instant with them for of a long time, they should no sooner have answer'd his desire in that particular, the Face of their Empire should soon see chang'd, that the Kings Forces lay ready at their Gates for their nearer assistance, and would in short retrieve the Empire again into that flourishing condition it had ever yet been in under its greatest Emperors.

Prince *William* of *Furstenburgh* Bi-
shop

shop of *Strasburgh* devoted wholly to the Interests of *France*, who for some Years has been labouring to deliver up his Country, was one of those most powerfully endeavor'd to insinuate these kind of things : But the aversion the Empire had for the *French* in general, was so great, and so universal, so far from calling of them into their help, would have much sooner call'd in the *Turk* : And indeed the *Turk* troubles no Body for his Religion sake, leaving every one to his Liberty of Conscience, keeping strictly to their word, where they once give it, and provided their Tribute be but paid which you promise them, Exact no more, no Leeches there preying upon the Blood of the People to be seen as in *France* swarming under the Name of *Partisan*, or Farmers of the Kings Revenue, there no laying of new Taxes upon every sort of thing, or when necessity obliges them to lay any are taken off again, as the necessity ceases, the Souldier is not there ill handled, nor the Ministers at
every

every turn threatening to lay them by the heels; on the contrary the Sword-Man is in great esteem amongst them, and a brave Fellow there is not without his Mark of Distinction: In a word they had heard so much of the *French* Domination and way of Government that they had resolv'd as one Man to stand it out to the last then ever have submitted. In vain then did all these good *French* men take the pains in giving out as I was saying they did: The King then seeing he lost his time that way, resolv'd upon the employing it somewhere else to better purposes, whilst the occasion was opportune; his Pretensions to the County of *Alost* he still kept up, and so marches to *Flanders* side with his Forces, proceeds to nominating of his general Officers, which he is never accusom'd to do but upon the neck of a War, and in fine making all ready to enter upon the Country: But just upon the point of putting his design in execution, God was

was pleas'd to take out of this World the Queen his Wife, one of the best Princesses upon Earth, after a sickness of two or three Days.

Her Disease appear'd not visibly dangerous, and was but a swelling, which kindly enough inclin'd to suppuration, but the Doctors instead of letting Nature have her Course which was e'en ready to throw off the malignity as I was saying, having through Ignorance let her Blood, contrary to the Opinion of Mr. Fagon her chief Physician, it struck in again to the Heart, and kill'd her : So soon as the Queen's condition was perceiv'd Dangerous, the King had notice, who came presently to her Chamber, and seem'd most extremely sensible, threw himself upon her Bed, with the Tears in his Eyes speaking to her in *Spanish*, but the Queens Eyes now setting in Head, and Death approaching died in his Arms without being able to answer : They had an Hour or two before given *Emetick* Wine but had not strength enough to.

to bear it, that instead of doing her good, serv'd only but to shorten her time, they forc't the King away from her, who lay taking on like wild in her Arms, and the Queen they left upon the Bed of State, till the next Day, then put her into a Coffin of Lead, placing instead of the Body a waxen Image made in resemblance, which for Nine days together was serv'd up as if yet alive, or rather as if it was the Queen her self: She was afterwards carried to St. Dennis the ordinary Burying place of the Kings of *France*, with a Magnificence truly Royal: Sixteen thousand Flambeauxs, Six hundred poor People clad in Black, besides the Servants of her own Family, and those of all the Princes, and Princesses of the Blood Royal, an infinite of other Persons of the first quality, with an endless train of Coaches. Her Heart had been carried some days before to *Val-de grace*, and placed in the Nuns Quire, right against the Chappel, where is kept that of the Queen Mother.

Two

Two or three days before the Queen dy'd, there happen'd a thing of an odd Nature enough : That Princess who was extremely addicted to her Religion, having call'd for an *Almanack* to her Bed-side to see when such a Holy-day would fall to which she had a particular Devotion, perceiv'd the Composer of the *Almanack* in his Predictions upon the Month *July*, foretold the withdrawing of a Prince, and Death of some great Lady who would be much regretted, and as the Prince of *Condy's* leaving the Court, shew'd perfectly he had hit extreme right, She turns her self to Madam *La Marshalle de Humiers* Lady of her Bed-chamber, who stood at her Beds-head and askt if 'twas not shethey meant ; The particular of this I had from Madam *La Marshalle d' Humiers* her self, and since have had the curiosity to view the *Almanack*, where those very two things are literally to be found. However the grief of the King slopt his *Flanders* expedition, retir'd immediately to *St. Clon*, his Brothers

thers the Duke of *Orleance's* Country House, from thence to *Fountain-bleau*, where in vain they strive to divert him, as the Queen took great pleasure in that place made him often call to mind his Queen, tears are frequent in his Eyes, and nothing but length of time can make him forget her.

Notwithstanding they give out, he persists still in his great designs the Truth of which we shall soon know with a little patience. But for me, I think God sent him that affliction to move him, and that in a little time, he not only will leave *Europe* in Peace, but by joining his Arms with the *Christians* will force the *Turk* to leave the Empire in quiet, which we ought all to wish.

F I N I S.

THis Book was given to the Bookseller, the Fifteenth of August, by which 'tis to be seen, the Author must be well enough acquainted with the Business of Alost, the manifesto in Relation to it being to come out upon the Saturday, and her Majesty dying but the day before, &c.

A Plain
D E F E N C E
 OF THE
PROTESTANT RELIGION,
 Fitted to the
Meanest Capacity :
 Being a
Full CONFUTATION
 OF THE
N E T
 FOR THE
Fishers of Men.

Published by two Gentlemen lately gone over to
 the Church of *Rome*.

Wherein is evidently made appear that their departure
 from the *Protestant Religion* was without Cause or
 Reason.

[by — Wake]

Written for public good by *L. E.* a Son of the Church
 of England, as by Law Established.

*Be not tossed up and fro with every Wind of Doctrine, by the
 sleight of Men, and cunning Craftiness, whereby they lye
 in wait to deceive. Eph. 4. 14.*

London, Printed by *S. L.* and are to be sold by
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